<u>In the claims</u>: The claims are as follows.

1.   (Original) A method by which a UE device (11) configured for
wireless communication with a node (10) of a wireless
communication system is instructed to adjust the value of a data
rate pointer (11a) maintained in the UE device (11), the data
rate pointer (11a) indicating a maximum allowed data rate
available to the UE (11) for uplink transmission of data to the
node (10), the method including:

     a step (26) in which the node (10) issues to the UE device
(11) a change command in response to a change request by the UE
device (11), the node (10) issuing the change command based on
predetermined rules; and

     a step (27) in which the UE device (11) adjusts the data
rate pointer (11a) according to the change command and based on
predetermined rules for interpreting the change command;

     the method characterized in that the predetermined rules
used by the node (10) in responding to the change request differ
depending on the current value of the data rate pointer (11a).

2.   (Original) The method of claim 1, further characterized in
that the predetermined rules differ depending on the current
value of the data rate pointer (11a) compared to a threshold
value for the data rate pointer (11a).

3.   (Original) The method of claim 2, further characterized in
that if the current value is less than the threshold value, the
change command signals a new value for the data rate pointer
(11a) or signals a number of steps by which to increment the data
rate pointer (11a).

4.   (Original) The method of claim 3, further characterized in

that the new value is signaled using a shared downlink channel along with an indicator for identifying the UE device (11).

5. (Original) The method of claim 3, further characterized in that the new value is signaled using a downlink dedicated physical data channel (DPDCH).

6. (Original) The method of claim 3, further characterized in that the new value is signaled using a downlink dedicated data channel or a downlink dedicated signaling channel.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1, further characterized in that in accord with the predetermined rules used by the node (10) in responding to the change request, the UE device (11) interprets the change command differently for different values of the current value of the data rate pointer (11a).

8. (Original) The method of claim 7, further characterized in that the predetermined rules differ depending on the current value of the data rate pointer (11a) compared to a threshold value for the data rate pointer (11a).

9. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the change command is an increment pointer command, and the method is further characterized in that if the current value is less than the threshold value, then the UE device (11) interprets the increment pointer command as a command to change the data rate pointer (11a) to a predetermined fast ramp-up pointer value or to change the data rate pointer (11a) by a predetermined fast ramp-up number of steps.

10. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the change command is a decrement pointer command, and if the current value is zero,

then the UE device (11) interprets the decrement pointer command as a command to change the data rate pointer (11a) to a predetermined fast ramp-up pointer value or to change the data rate pointer (11a) by a predetermined fast ramp-up number of steps.

11. (Original) The method of claim 8, further characterized in that if the current value is less than the threshold value, then the node (10) issues a sequence of bits of a predetermined length as the pointer change command, and the UE device (11) interprets the sequence of bits as conveying a value to which to change the data rate pointer (11a) or as conveying a number of steps by which to change the data rate pointer (11a).

12. (Original) The method of claim 11, further characterized in that the first bit of the sequence of bits is a pointer increment command, and upon receiving the first bit of the sequence the UE device (11) immediately increments the data rate pointer (11a) by one step, and upon receiving the other bits of the sequence the UE device (11) changes the data rate pointer (11a) according to the predetermined rules governing receiving the sequence of bits as the pointer change command.

13. (Original) The method of claim 12, further characterized in that if a first bit in a sequence of pointer change command bits is not a pointer increment command, the UE device (11) interprets the first bit and the subsequent bits as individual pointer change commands.

14. (Original) A computer program product comprising: a computer readable storage structure embodying computer program code thereon for execution by a computer processor in a node (10) of a wireless communication system, with said computer program code

characterized in that it includes instructions for performing the steps of the method of claim 1 indicated as being performed by the node (10).

15. (Original) A computer program product comprising: a computer readable storage structure embodying computer program code thereon for execution by a computer processor in a user equipment device (11) adapted for communication via a wireless communication system, with said computer program code characterized in that it includes instructions for performing the steps of the method of claim 1 indicated as being performed by the UE device (11).

16. (Original) An apparatus for use by a UE device (11) configured for wireless communication with a node (10) of a wireless communication system, the apparatus for use in adjusting the value of a data rate pointer (11a) maintained in the UE device (11), the data rate pointer (11a) indicating a maximum allowed data rate available to the UE (11) for uplink transmission of data to the node (10), the apparatus including:

means (27) by which the UE device (11) receives from the node (10) a change command; and

means (27) by which the UE device (11) adjusts the data rate pointer (11a) according to the change command;

the apparatus characterized by interpreting the change command based on predetermined rules that differ depending on the current value of the data rate pointer (11a).

17. (Original) An apparatus for use by a node (10) of a wireless communication system configured for wireless communication with a UE device (11), the apparatus for use in adjusting the value of a data rate pointer (11a) maintained in

the UE device (11), the data rate pointer (11a) indicating a maximum allowed data rate available to the UE (11) for uplink transmission of data to the node (10), the apparatus including:

means (26) by which the node (10) issues to the UE device (11) a change command for changing the value of the data rate pointer (11a) in response to a change request from the UE device (11); and

means by which the node (10) tracks the value of the data rate pointer (11a);

the apparatus characterized by responding to the change request with a pointer change command based on predetermined rules that differ depending on the current value of the data rate pointer (11a).

18. (Original) A system including components hosted by a node (10) of a wireless communication system and also components hosted by a UE device (11) configured for wireless communication with the node (10), the system for use in instructing the UE device (11) to adjust the value of a data rate pointer (11a) maintained in the UE device (11), the data rate pointer (11a) indicating a maximum allowed data rate available to the UE (11) for uplink transmission of data to the node (10), the system including:

means (26) by which the node (10) issues to the UE device (11) a change command in response to a change request by the UE device (11), the node (10) issuing the change command based on predetermined rules for responding to the change request; and

means (27) by which the UE device (11) adjusts the data rate pointer (11a) according to the change command and based on predetermined rules for interpreting the change command;

the system characterized in that the predetermined rules used by the node (10) in responding to the change request differ depending on the current value of the data rate pointer (11a).

19. (Original) The system of claim 18, further comprising a controller element (14) of a core network of the wireless communication system, and further characterized in that the controller element (14) communicates to the node (10) and to the UE device (11) via the node (10) information sufficient to specify parameters of the predetermined rules.

20. (Original) The system of claim 19, wherein the parameters include the threshold or the information characterizing a threshold.

21. (Original) The system of claim 20, wherein the information characterizing a threshold is one or more allowed data rates.

22. (Original) The system of claim 20, wherein the parameters include the predetermined fast ramp-up pointer value.

23. (Original) The system of claim 20, wherein the parameters include the predetermined fast ramp-up number of steps.